



Features | News Briefs | TechKnowledge | Statewide Tech | Student Focus | Class Notes | Faculty Accolades | Arc

NEWS BRIEFS

Spring :



This past summer, a 1960s-era airplane donated to Purdue 13 years ago underwent a noisy process of deconstruction at the Purdue Airport.

Aging plane demolished at purdue airport

This past summer, a 1960s-era airplane donated to Purdue 13 years ago underwent a noisy process of deconstruction at the Purdue Airport.

Large knives, called shearers, cut the Boeing 727 into chunks, then shredded it into smaller pieces that were hauled away and melted for recycling. The process began July 31 and was finished by the first week of August.

"It's quite unusual for a plane to be destroyed in Indiana," Purdue Airport director Betty Stansbury says. "Old planes are usually flown out to disposal sites in California or Arizona, but since this aircraft was not flyable and it would cost too much to repair it, it was much more cost-efficient to destroy it here."

The airplane was donated to Purdue by United Airlines. It was never flown since its time at Purdue, instead being used as a training static for aviation technology students.

Purdue also has a 1970s-era Boeing 737 that was donated by United Airlines that is used as an on-ground training station.

Egg launch competition teaches physics principles

Sponsored by the College of Technology locations at Anderson and Muncie and Ball State University, the annual spring Iron Egg Drop Competition tests the creativity and brainpower of local high school students.

In the competition, groups of four to six high school students design and build an apparatus to launch an egg at a target 25 meters away as well as a container to hold the egg and keep it from breaking upon landing. They are judged on a combination of launch accuracy, creativity, egg protection, and quality of a written report. "The students in the contest are able to put to use the concepts they are learning in the classroom, as well as have fun," says David Riegle, Purdue's Anderson and Muncie student services coordinator.

"A technology education is about applying scientific knowledge and theory to hands-on applications. This competition helps the students start thinking about how those theories apply to real-world situations."

